



Arlington Disability Commission Minutes

Date: Wednesday, July 15th, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: Remote Participation

Attendees: Commissioners Cynthia DeAngelis (Chair), Darcy Devney, Paul Raia, Karen Mathiasen, Paul Parravano, Michael Rademacher (Public Works Director), Kerrie Fallon, Liza Molina, Maureen St. Hilaire (Co-Chair)

Absent:

Guests: Jillian Harvey (DEI Coordinator), Grace Carpenter (Volunteer), Patrice Faulkner (MAPC), Christopher Ellinger (True Story Theater)

Minutes

Meeting is called to order at 4:02PM by DeAngelis

1. Call to Order- Review Ground Rules, Welcome new comers
2. Approve June Minutes
 - a. Parravano moved to approve June minutes, Raia seconded motion, unanimously approved
3. Check-Ins
 - a. Parravano asked for more detail on ADA Self-Evaluation presentations as it was initially disrupted, and restarted.
 - b. Do we have any money to start to look at changes in the plan, should ACD be paying for projects?
 - c. Rademacher- addresses direct questions of timing and implementation of the plan projects
 - i. Maybe as commission the group can take on looking at implementation plan timeline and review priorities
 - ii. For next year, think about incorporating Disability Commission into departmental capital budget recommendations
 - iii. Rademacher will make initial connection between DPW, Planning and group

4. New Business (20 min)

a. Honoring Beverly Bevilacqua

- i. Beverly was an active member of the commission; can we ask Town Manager's office to give us a proclamation or something on behalf of Beverly for serving on the commission. Determine how long she served, and have some type of acknowledgement on the website and recognize her for her work; she also volunteered 3 days a week with COA

ii. Also send card to Ellen Leigh's family

b. New Meeting Time Proposal, 3-5pm

- i. Parravano proposed potentially moving time up a little bit earlier, group discussion around it. We will keep it 4pm for now and revisit moving the time during the September meeting

c. True Story Theater partnership and collaboration

- i. DeAngelis introduces Christopher Ellinger from True Story Theater, to see if commission would like to be a partner for their National Endowment for the Arts to provide programming and the group will vote
- ii. Would be a 2-year period of partnership, about 1-2 events each year
- iii. In the past TST has provided public programs, some internally (strategic planning/ team building)
- iv. If commission would like to partner, TST will need a letter of support from the commission
- v. Ellinger discusses that Zoom is the platform used and it is more accessible now.
- vi. Fallon proposed motion to partner with TST, Devney seconded

d. [Disability Commission's new Facebook Page](#)

- i. Carpenter and DeAngelis managing new commission Facebook page, members please send them articles and images for the page.

e. Newsletter

- i. Revisit when Carpenter can speak to idea.

f. Discuss Town Website

- i. Harvey will get web-redesign info.

5. Budget Update & Planning

- a. All are in favor of waiting to discuss budget until August meeting, after training with Town Counsel

6. Committee Updates (15 min)

- a. Raia:

- i. Saw letter on building committee, that they will take up our concerns when the proper time comes, call us in during the proper phase
 - ii. Would like to request special meeting with Adam Chapdelaine and AHSBC Chair, to discuss concerns, Harvey will coordinate after letter is drafted
 - iii. Raia will craft letter with DeAngelis to lay out issues and need for meeting to address concerns
- b. Devney
 - i. Will forward the invitation to virtual celebration for ADA's 30th anniversary which is this month for Cambridge and Boston- provide promotional info or a logo that we could share on Facebook
- c. Rademacher
 - i. Business as usual, sidewalk renovations are moving right along
 - ii. Trying to minimize restaurant disruption during the project
- d. Carpenter
 - i. Social media/communications, will post some ADA 30th
- e. Parravano
 - i. Elections- trying to get conversation moving on new voting machines, and mail in voting, and how to make mail in voting accessible for all
- f. Others
 - i. Fallon has a some follow up to the transition plan, wondering if other departments know what they need to do to implement the proper changes
 - ii. DeAngelis and group discussed, special education and transition back to school
- 7. DEI Updates
 - a. Harvey and town continuing the Community Conversations series, including schools talks as well
 - b. Business bias & discrimination training/workshop group met on Tuesday, next meeting is 7/28 at 2pm to continue the conversation and strategize plans.
 - c. Mark calendars for training day with Doug Heim, Thursday August 6th at 3pm, Harvey will send out reminder with calendar invite. Things to think about are question you want to ask, how to define role of commission
- 8. Priorities for next meeting's agenda
 - a. Spend 15 minutes-hear from everyone going forward think about accessibility during check-ins
 - b. Discuss reviewing the transition plan every few months

- c. Rademacher and St. Hilaire try to find the old “what to do” list
- d. Raia & DeAngelis to update on the letter/meeting for AHS building committee
- e. Rademacher will report on conversation that relates to groups/departments and how their work is in line/ incorporates transition plan
- f. Committee Updates

Meeting adjourns: Raia, moves to adjourn, Parravano at 5:54pm